

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/924,155, filed ~~August 7, 2001~~ November 26, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,715,614, which claims priority of ~~Provisional Patent Application Serial No.: 60/223,506, Filed August 7, 2000. now U.S. Patent No. 6,715,614.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

In an alternative embodiment shown in Figures 21 and 22, strip 103 is secured to bags 101 by a strip of double-sided adhesive tape 111 which has been applied to tabs 104. Preferably the adhesive side of tape 111 facing strip 103 has greater adhesion than the side facing bags 101, so that bags 101 can be removed from strips 103 at the time of delivery, and the strips 103 with tape 11 attached can be returned for recycling. This, one side of tape 111 is coated with a first adhesive that remains permanently bonded to strip 103, whereas the other side is coated with a second adhesive having a light tack (comparable to re-applyable ~~Post-It~~ POST-IT[®] office notes) so that the plastic bag can be peeled away without damaging it.

Please replace page 23 of the specification with the attached replacement page entitled "ABSTRACT."